

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.  
Currently, claims 1-44 are pending in this application.

**Abstract:**

The abstract was objected to because of the recitation of “means”. By this Amendment, the abstract has been editorially revised to delete the recitation of the term “means.” Applicant therefore requests that the objection to the abstract be withdrawn.

**Allowable Subject Matter:**

Claims 14-23 have been indicated as being allowable. Some of these claims have been editorially revised in this Amendment.

The Office Action held that claims 2-7, 9 and 11-12 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2-7, 9 and 11-12 have been maintained herein. New claims 26-34 have been added. Of these claims, claims 26, 32 and 33 correspond to claims 2, 9 and 11, respectively, rewritten in independent form. Claims 27-31 depend from claim 26 and claim 34 depends from claim 33. Claims 26-34 are therefore allowable.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102:**

Claims 1, 8, 10 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Darrow et al (U.S. ‘610, hereinafter “Darrow”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

For a reference to anticipate a claim, each element must be found, either expressly or under principles of inherency, in the reference. Applicant respectfully submits that Darrow fails to disclose each element of the claimed invention. For example, Applicant submits that Darrow fails to disclose “movement state display means for displaying information in relation to a movement state of the tip of the device on the basis of data indicative of the position of the tip detected by the detection means,” as required by independent claim 1 and claims 8, 10 and 13 which depend therefrom.

Claim 1 thus requires information relating to a movement state of the device within an object being displayed. For example, information showing temporal changes in the position of a part of the device inserted into an object is presented in the form of a locus chart.

In contrast, Darrow fails to disclose information relating to display of a movement state. Darrow discloses a tracking computer 50 which calculates a position (x, y, z) and orientation ( $\theta$ ,  $\Phi$ ) of a transmit coil. However, the position and orientation data provide only momentary information. Darrow does not disclose displaying information relating to a movement state of a device.

Col. 2, lines 1-8 of Darrow (specifically identified by the Office Action) states the following:

“These voltage signals are digitized and sent to a tracking computer for analysis. The tracking computer utilizes non-linear iterative methods to solve for the position and orientation of the transmitting coil. This positional information is then superimposed on multiple X-ray images to give the operator real-time information

on the three-dimensional location of the invasive device within the subject.”

This portion of Darrow merely discloses a tracking computer solving for the position and orientation of a transmitting coil. This momentary position and orientation data determined by the tracking computer does not form a display for displaying a movement state of a device. Through this feature of the claimed invention, an operator can see almost in real time the movements of a device inserted in an object by viewing the displayed screen. Darrow fails to appreciate this benefit.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 1, 8, 10 and 13 are not anticipated by Darrow and respectfully requests that the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 be withdrawn.

**New Claims:**

New claims 24-44 have been added to provide additional protection for the invention. New claims 26-34 are allowable as discussed above. New claims 24 and 25 require “a movement display unit displaying information in relation to a temporally-traced movement of an inserted part of the device....” New claims 35-44 are method claims. Applicant submits that new claims 25-44 are allowable.

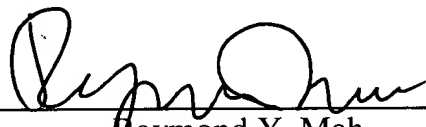
***HOSHINO et al.***  
***Application No. 09/871,712***  
***June 14, 2004***

**Conclusion:**

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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